

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Brix's criminal action was discovered when the village cooperative of Peasant's Self-Help took over the purchasing center.

CHURCHMEN TRIED -- Polska Zbrojna, No 356, 29 Dec 49

On 28 December 1949, the Military District Court in Rzeszow began the trial of several churchmen for aiding subversive and terrorist bands.

The defendants are: Wojciech Lorenc, parish priest from Tryncza, Przeworsk Powiat; Stanislaw Kulak, parish priest from Gniewczyna Lancucka; Stanislaw Zub, vicar of Gniewczyna; Franciszek Jakubiec, church sexton of Tryncza; Stanislaw Niemiec, gravedigger from Gniewczyna; and Stanislaw Tytula. All defendants are charged with collaborating with the Mewa band of the National Armed Forces (NSZ).

The military prosecutor stated that Wojciech Lorenc had contacted the commander of the Mewa band in the spring of 1945, and helped the band on many occasions. The same charges were made against Stanislaw Kulak, parish priest from Gniewczyna Lancucka, and his vicar, Father Stanislaw Zub. The latter was a member of the National Army (AK) under the German occupation and continued to maintain contacts with anti-government organizations, distributing literature which attacked the present regime in Poland. Since the fall of 1944, Father Zub remained in close contact with the band commander Jan Toth (alias Mewa), and became the chaplain of the band. He reported this fact to his superior, Father Kulak, and the parsonage in Gniewczyna became the base of operations for the NSZ band.

In his capacity as the band's chaplain, Father Zub is accused of celebrating a special mass for them, and inciting them to fight against the present regime and the people's democracy in Poland.

Father Kulak is charged with hiding articles stolen by the band in the granary of the parish and with appropriating some of these articles. In the summer of 1945, Father Kulak consented to the hiding of weapons behind the church altar. Father Lorenc, in complicity with Jakubiec and other members of the band, had hidden arms belonging to the band in the church's garret.

Stanislaw Niemiec, gravedigger of the parish in Gniewczyna Lancucka, is charged with hiding arms in a grave. Stanislaw Tytula is accused of having received and transported arms belonging to the band.

- E N D -

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL